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REMARKS

The specification has been amended to make an editorial change therein, bearing in mind the criticism in the Official Action, to place the application in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

The indication that claims 4-17 include patentable subject matter is acknowledged with thanks. In reliance thereon, claims 1-3 have been canceled and claims 4-7, 10, 12 and 16-17 have been amended into independent form by adding the subject matter of claim 1 thereto (claim 4 also includes the subject matter of claims 2-3). Note that when amending the claims, the subject matter of claim 1 has been revised by deleting reference to the relative surface coverage as this is not seen as necessary for patentability of the amended claims.

Claims 1-3 were rejected as anticipated by HOWAITO JP 4003958. These claims have been canceled and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the present amendment, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Please charge the fee of \$430 for the five extra independent claims added herewith, to Deposit Account No. 25-0120.

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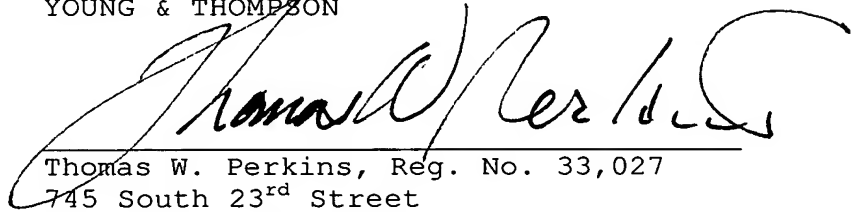
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas W. Perkins".

Thomas W. Perkins, Reg. No. 33,027  
745 South 23<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22202  
Telephone (703) 521-2297  
Telefax (703) 685-0573  
(703) 979-4709

TWP/lk